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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/157,497	09/21/1998	TADAYOSHI INAMOTO	35.C12973	2481

5514 7590 02/28/2003

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30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER
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SCHWARTZ, PAMELA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1774

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2003

22

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/157,497

Applicant(s)

INAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Pamela R. Schwartz

Art Unit

1774

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12 and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-10, 12 and 13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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1. Claims 6-10, 12 and 13 remain withdrawn from consideration.
2. Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (5,185,213). The reference discloses an ink jet recording material comprising a substrate and a coating thereon. At col. 3, lines 14-29, the reference discloses that inorganic pigment may be used in the coating layer. At col. 4, lines 31 45, the reference discloses the inclusion of thermoplastic resins in the form of a latex. Therefore, particles are present. The ratio of thermoplastic resin is 2 to 45 parts per 100 parts by weight of pigment (see col. 4, lines 59-65). The substrate may be polyvinyl chloride (see col. 5, lines 18-23). According to the reference, upon heating and drying, the epoxy resin of the reference reacts with the thermoplastic resin. Consequently, there should be no particle structure left. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the base in the shape of a card as recited by claim 3 in order for the medium to fit into a wallet after printing or so that it may be used as an identification label.
3. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa et al. (5,576,088). The reference discloses an ink jet recording medium comprising a support, an ink receiving layer and a gloss providing layer on the surface thereof (see the Abstract). The ink receiving layer contains pigment and binder. The pigment may be pseudoboehmite, the binder may be a thermoplastic polymer and the binder to pigment ratio is preferably 5 to 50 parts binder to 100 parts of pigment by weight (see col. 6, lines 39-54 and col. 7, line 44 to col. 8, line 1). There is no

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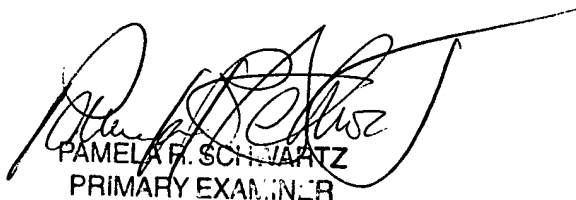
discussion of the binder having any remaining particle structure in the final product, so it would appear that none remains.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The previous prior art rejection has been overcome based upon the amendments to the claims and the arguments made in Paper No. 19.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pamela R. Schwartz whose telephone number is 703-308-2424. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly, can be reached on (703) 308-0449. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

PRSchwartz  
February 24, 2003



PAMELA R. SCHWARTZ  
PRIMARY EXAMINER